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ABSTRACT

Before the passage of Title IX of the Civil Rights Act in 1972, pregnant and parenting students throughout the United States were often expelled from school. This manual for Oregon school administrators and social-service personnel provides information on the school-enrollment laws that affect pregnant and parenting students and describes some of the resources available to meet their unique needs. The introduction describes the impact of teen pregnancy and parenting and presents related Oregon vital statistics. Section 2 specifies requirements for complying with federal legislation and section 3 describes Oregon legislation, policies, and goals. The fourth section provides an overview of related Oregon statutes and administrative rules and the fifth section describes programs for pregnant and parenting students. Statewide plans for implementing 1993 legislation and local plans for programs are highlighted in the sixth section. A list of statewide resources is included. Appendices contain a checklist, sample forms, and tables showing the 1993 incidence of pregnancies and live births to teens in Oregon counties and 1993 statistics for pregnancy and live births to Oregon teens under age 18. (Contains 10 references.) (LMI)

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Serving Pregnant and Parenting Students

Requirements for School Districts

1996

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State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Serving Pregnant and Parenting Students

Requirements for School Districts

1996

Judy Miller
Assistant Superintendent
Office of Student Services

Oregon Department of Education
Public Service Building
255 Capitol Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97310-0203

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Written by
Dona Horine Bolt

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Foreword

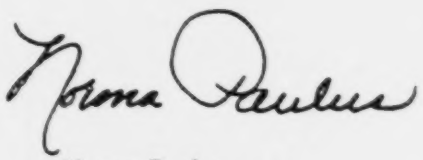
Did you know —

- Compulsory school attendance laws require all children between the ages of 7 and 18 to be in school. (ORS 339.030)
- School districts are required to facilitate the provision of education and social services to pregnant and parenting teens. (ORS 336.640)
- All students have a right to a free, appropriate public education until they earn a high school diploma, Certificate of Mastery, General Education Degree (GED), or until they reach the age of 21.
- School districts can claim two shares of state school funds (about $8,000 a year) for pregnant or parenting teens receiving comprehensive services.

The Oregon Department of Education is committed to providing a free appropriate public education to all children and youth residing in the state, including pregnant and parenting youth. The best interests of children and youth are served when school administrators and social service personnel are aware of federal and state laws, as well as the resources currently available to assist in the provision of services. The purpose of this publication is to convey such information as it relates to pregnant and parenting students.

Oregon is progressing toward its benchmark goals for youth through programs which promote school completion and workforce preparation for teen parents while discouraging subsequent early pregnancies. For the children of teen parents, improving birthweight and nutrition, and reducing child abuse and neglect are significant program outcomes. School district teen parent programs, child development centers, job opportunities programs, school-based health clinics, and parenting, safety and health education are all part of this progress.

For more information, contact the Office of Student Services at the Oregon Department of Education at (503) 378-5585.



Norma Paulus
State Superintendent of
Public Instruction

Table of Contents

Foreword iii

I. Introduction

A. Information Provided 1
B. Impact of Teen Pregnancy and Parenting 1
C. The Outlook from a State Perspective 2

II. Federal Legislation

A. Civil Rights Act — Education Amendments of 1972: Title IX 3
B. Individuals with Disabilities Act 3
C. Family Support Act of 1988 — PL 100-485 4
D. Rehabilitation Act — Section 504 on Student Access 4

III. Oregon Legislation, Policies and Goals

A. ORS 336.640 Rules Governing Education for Pregnant and Parenting Students 9
B. OAR 581-23-100 Eligibility Criteria for Student Weighting for Purposes of State School Fund Distribution 10
C. OAR 581-53-527 Minimum Standards for School Buses Designed to Transport Children with Disabilities 11
D. ORS 417.270 — Equal Access to Programs for Females Under Age Eighteen 11
E. Oregon Board of Education Policies 11
F. OR Laws 1989 Chapter 671 Establishing Office of Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood 11
G. Governor's Office on Teen Pregnancy 12
H. Oregon Educational Act for the 21st Century 12
I. Oregon Progress Board Benchmarks 12

IV. Related Oregon Statutes and Administrative Rules

A. ORS 339.010 through .035 Compulsory School Attendance 15
B. ORS 339.115 through .125 Admission of Students 15
C. ORS 339.133 through .137 Residencys 15
D. ORS 343.035 through .195 Special Education Services 15
E. OAR 581-15-081 Due Process Hearings on Placement 15
F. OAR 581-21-045 through -049 Equal Educational Opportunities for Students 15
G. OAR 581-21-071 Alternative Education Programs 15
H. OAR 581-22-317 Credit for Alternative Education Programs 15
I. ORS Chapter 109 Establishment of Paternity 15
J. ORS Chapter 416 Child Support Enforcement 16

V. Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Students

A. Qualities of Effective Teen Parent Programs 17
B. Partners in Collaboration 17

VI. Next Steps
A. Statewide Implementation of 1993 Legislation 19
B. Local Program Planning 19

VII. Resources and References
A. Statewide Resources 21
B. Publication References 22

VIII. Appendices
A. Individualized Plan for Pregnancy and/or Parenting Teens (Sample Form) 25
B. Form 581-3225 — Report of Students Eligible for Additional Weighting 27
C. Tables:
Incidence of Pregnancies and Live Births to Teens in Oregon Counties, 1992
Pregnancy and Birth Rates for Teens in Oregon Counties, 1992 29
D. Does Your School Make the Grade? (Checklist) 31

I. Introduction

A. Information Provided

This manual provides information on the school enrollment laws affecting pregnant and parenting students, and some of the resources available to meet their unique needs. Statutory policies, guidelines and legal references are reprinted for administrators and other school district personnel. Program planners and grant writers may find information on resources for designing effective local programs.

The legal requirements of school districts are presented relative to the implementation of federal and state educational and civil rights laws affecting pregnant and parenting students. Also included are rules and procedural requirements for school districts receiving funds for teen parent programs, as well as information on reporting enrollment of pregnant youth for additional state school funds weighting.

An overview of Oregon programs serving pregnant and parenting students is provided, with a list of some of the agencies to contact for more information. Since there is no single state or federal agency solely responsible for young parents, a collaborative network serves the complex needs of these youth and their children. In Oregon, the range of services and the agencies which provide these services varies widely among communities.

Appendices A and B provide sample copies of forms used by school districts serving pregnant and parenting students. Appendix C shows 1992 data from the Oregon Vital Statistics, arranged by county, on teen pregnancies and live births to teens. Appendix D reproduces a checklist for schools involving civil rights compliance issues related to pregnant and parenting students.

B. Impact of Teen Pregnancy and Parenting

Before the passage of Title IX of the Civil Rights Act in 1972, pregnant and parenting student throughout the United States were often expelled from school. As the economic and social consequences of *not* caring for these young people and their children became apparent, the importance of continuing education for pregnant and parenting youth was undeniable. Today, the civil rights of pregnant and parenting students are protected and punitive treatment is illegal.

The U.S. Department of Education (1991) reports that nearly half a million teenagers give birth each year. The majority, nearly 60%, are white. "Kids Count" data (1993) shows a 16% national increase between 1985 and 1990 in the percentage of births to single teens. Over the same period, the increase in Oregon was 35% (Center for the Study of Social Policy, 1993).

Teen parents often delay or abandon high school completion. Pregnancy and/or marriage have been found to be the leading reasons for females to drop out of high school (USDE, 1988). In a 1991 report on Title IX, the U.S. Department of Education indicated that only two percent of teenage mothers entered college.

Pregnant and parenting teens are twice as likely to become dependent on public assistance. Oregon Adult and Family Services has reported that almost 50% of families on public assistance are headed by adults who had their first child as a teenager. Because teenage parents are likely to have additional early pregnancies, the families tend to stay on public assistance longer than those who did not have children until their twenties or later. In Oregon, over 60% of public assistance recipients are or were teenage parents (State of Oregon, January 1991).

The children of teen parents are often born into poverty. These infants are at risk of low birth weight, inadequate nutrition and developmental delays. Child abuse and neglect are significantly associated with younger parents. The Oregon Department of Human Resources has reported that 50% of Children's Services Division clients were once teen parents, and an alarming 70% of incarcerated men were children of teen parents (State of Oregon, December 1989).

Despite the odds, there is still the perception by many youth that the rewards of parenthood will outweigh the advantages of completing high school, working on a career and delaying childbearing. An incomplete education, lack of work experience and child care concerns may keep young parents from succeeding in the job market in an era when every adult is expected to be a contributing part of the workforce. While we must believe that every parent wants the best for their children, when combined with a lack of extended family support and an unfamiliarity with social services, teenage parents face complex difficulties needing urgent attention.

C. The Outlook from a State Perspective

The 1992 Vital Statistics Report from the Oregon Health Division indicated that 7,628 females under twenty years of age were pregnant during the year (*Appendix C*). The pregnancy rate for females ages 10–17 was 17.9 per 1,000. At least 157 of the teen pregnancies reported in 1992 involved females under age 15; the youngest was age 12. For females age 15–17, the pregnancy rate was 47.8 per 1,000 (2,756 total statewide). Almost 65% of these pregnancies resulted in live births. Most young mothers in Oregon have opted to keep their babies instead of placing them with adoptive parents (State of Oregon, November 1989).

In Oregon, educators and lawmakers have responded to the need for special services by these youth, enacting statutes which define the obligations of school districts for considering and obtaining services for pregnant and parenting students. Statewide benchmarks and goals have been established toward changing the outcomes for pregnant and parenting teenagers and their young families. Local partnerships design program components suited to community needs and resources.

The Young Parent Services model has been created to make the state's implementation of the federal Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program fully address the needs of this group. As a disincentive to dropping out of school, public assistance has been tied to school enrollment. Case managers work with individual youth in identifying and accessing local services.

As a result of Oregon's programs and partnerships, around 85% of teen parents receiving public assistance in Oregon are enrolled in school or completing a General Education Degree (State of Oregon, 1993). This state rate, which has been maintained for several years, is one of the highest in the country.

II. Federal Legislation

A. Civil Rights Act — Education Amendments of 1972: Title IX

The Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education is responsible for enforcing several laws prohibiting discrimination in federally-assisted education programs or activities. These laws include Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination based on sex.

Title IX extends to instructional programs, as well as to other benefits and services offered by school systems in receipt of federal financial assistance. It also extends to the programs with which school systems contract for services, even if those programs do not directly receive federal funds.

Title IX provides that:

> *No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.*
>
> *This section does not apply to an educational institution which is controlled by a religious organization if the application of this subsection would not be consistent with the religious tenets of such an organization.*

Title IX specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on her pregnancy or childbirth. Schools may not exclude pregnant students from any part of their educational or extracurricular programs. Students cannot be suspended or expelled from school because of pregnancy. When a student returns after giving birth, she must be allowed to return to the same academic and extracurricular status as before.

Schools may receive federal funds to implement special instructional programs or classes for pregnant and/or parenting students. Such programs must provide quality educational services that are comparable to those in the regular academic program. If special programs or special schools exist for students who are pregnant or who have children, schools may not require students to enroll in or transfer to these programs.

A student who is pregnant or has given birth may be required to submit to medical certification for school participation *only* if this type of certification is required of all students — male and female — who have been under the care of a doctor. For example, a student who has been hospitalized due to childbirth should not be required to submit a medical certificate for re-entry to school if a certificate is not required of other students receiving other types of medical treatment.

Local compliance with Title IX regarding pregnancy may be tested using the checklist provided in *Appendix D.*

B. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act contains the statutory requirements for school districts providing special education services to students with disabilities. Although not as broad in

its eligibility requirements as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the school's obligations and the general procedural requirements are similar.

A student does not have to be eligible for special education in order to be qualified under Section 504. It has been recommended (Ross and Barr, 1989) that trained staff at the schools evaluate teen parents for developmental disabilities which would make them eligible for special education because the proportion of learning disabled or developmentally disabled students in teen parent programs can run double that of the entire school district.

C. Family Support Act of 1988 — PL 100-485

The Family Support Act mandates that young parents under the age of 24, without a high school education, are one of three high priority populations. The Act requires each state to operate a Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) program. In Oregon, Adult and Family Services Division staff are responsible for implementation of the plan. This educational and vocational training program is designed to get young mothers ready for work as a condition of receiving public assistance. Oregon has been a national leader in implementing the JOBS program as a collaborative effort between Adult and Family Services, community colleges and other social service and education agencies (see *Part IV, b*).

Approximately half of the teen mothers in Oregon are eligible for public assistance under the Family Support Act. This assistance may include transportation and child care while the teen parent is in school. School districts should work collaboratively with the local branches of Adult and Family Services to assure that these social services are accessible by teen parents. It should be noted, however, that students cannot be required to apply for public assistance.

D. Rehabilitation Act — Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a civil rights statute which provides that:

> *No otherwise qualified individual with handicaps in the United States... shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance or activity conducted by any Executive agency or by the United States Postal Service. (29 USC/794).*

This student access statute protects those students with disabling conditions from being excluded from federally-funded programs and activities. Under this Rehabilitation Act statute, a pregnancy can result in a temporary disability for the teenage mother, and the district must take certain measures to ensure her continuing school participation.

It should be noted that neither the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act nor Oregon law identifies pregnancy as a disability for the purposes of special education. A student does not, however, have to be eligible for special education in order to be qualified under Section 504. A due process hearing may be requested under OAR 581-15-109 to resolve issues of alleged violations of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

School District Obligations Under Section 504

The school district obligations under Section 504 applicable to those students who are eligible due to pregnancy are summarized below. For a complete list of obligations toward students with

disabilities, consult Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 on student access, or the Oregon Department of Education publication on student access (Summer 1990).

Free Appropriate Public Education: Districts must provide a free appropriate education (regular or special education and related aids and services) to all students within the jurisdiction who are eligible under Section 504. Instruction must be individually designed to meet the needs of students with disabilities as adequately as nondisabled students, and must be equivalent in quality. Districts must make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

Although Section 504 does not require school districts to develop an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) as required in special education, it is recommended by the U.S. Department of Education that the district document meetings of the multidisciplinary team and the specific services agreed upon.

Transportation: If a district places a student in a program not operated by the district, the district must assure that adequate transportation to and from the program is provided at no greater cost than would have been incurred to transport the student to the district. Bus rides should not be longer for students with disabilities.

Nonacademic Services: Nonacademic services must be made available to students with disabilities to the same extent that they are made available to other students, to the maximum extent appropriate. Districts must provide equal opportunity in areas such as counseling, physical recreation, transportation, health services, special interest groups or clubs and referrals to other agencies and employment.

Least Restrictive Environment: Like the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, to the maximum extent appropriate, districts must educate students with disabilities together with nondisabled students.

The least restrictive environment provision requires that districts:

- have an open entry policy that allows students to enter the educational program at any time and with the least delay;
- have flexible attendance policies to accommodate students' special needs. Although full-time status is recommended, partial attendance status should be allowed;
- complete an educational assessment and individualized education plan for each pregnant student, resulting in an educational contract with the student; and
- develop a transportation plan to assure transportation will not be a barrier to participation. The provision of transportation must take into account the need for car seats for infants and toddlers.

How Discrimination is Defined Under Section 504

Regarding students with disabilities, including pregnant teens, discrimination occurs under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act when a recipient of federal funds:

1. Denies a person with disabilities the opportunity to participate in or benefit from an aid, benefit or service which is afforded to others. For pregnant students, an example would be denial of credit for absenteeism related to the pregnancy or childbirth, or suspension/expulsion on the basis of pregnancy.

2. Fails to afford the person with disabilities an opportunity to participate in or benefit from the aid, benefit or service that is *equal* to that afforded others.

3. Fails to provide aids, benefits or services to the person with disabilities that are *as effective* as those provided others.

4. Provides different or separate aids, benefits or services unless such action is necessary to be as effective as the aids, benefits or services provided to persons who have no disabilities (e.g., segregating students in separate classes or facilities, unless necessary).

5. Aids or perpetuates discrimination by providing significant assistance to an agency, organization or person that discriminates on the basis of a disability (for example, sponsoring a student organization which excludes students who are pregnant or parenting).

6. Denies a person with a disability the opportunity to participate as a member of a planning or advisory board strictly because of his or her disability.

7. Otherwise limits the enjoyment of any right, privilege advantage or opportunity enjoyed by others.

8. In determining the site or location of a facility, makes selections which effectively exclude persons with disabilities, denies them benefits, or otherwise subjects them to discrimination.

Procedural Requirements Under Section 504

To be in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, school districts must do the following:

1. Provide written assurance of nondiscrimination whenever the district receives federal money.

2. Designate an employee to coordinate compliance with Section 504 (if there are more than 15 employees).

3. Provide grievance procedures to resolve complaints of discrimination (if more than 15 employees); this does not apply to denial of employment. Students, parents or employees are entitled to file grievances. A procedure similar to that afforded parents under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act would suffice.

4. Provide notice to students, parents and employees of nondiscrimination in admission or access to programs and activities (if more than 15 employees). Notice must also specify the responsible person and be included in the student/parent handbook.

5. Annually identify and locate all Section 504 qualified children with disabilities in the district's geographic area who are not receiving a public education.

6. Annually notify students with disabilities, and their parents or guardians, of the district's responsibilities under Section 504.

7. Provide students who have disabilities, and their parents or guardians, with procedural safeguards:

   a. notice of their rights,
   b. an opportunity to review relevant records, and

c. an impartial hearing regarding the identification, evaluation or placement of students with disabilities. If the district proposes to change a student's placement and a request for a hearing is filed, the district is obligated to maintain the student in his or her present educational placement until administrative and judicial proceedings are complete (OAR 581-15-080(2)(e)).

III. Oregon Legislation, Policies and Goals

Oregon law is comprised of Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS), which are further defined by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) and case law, which are court decisions interpreting these statutes and OAR. Administrative rules have the force of law in Oregon. At this time we do not have case law on the statues and OAR regarding pregnant and parenting teens. Legislative sessions occur every two years.

A. ORS 336.640 Rules Governing Education for Pregnant and Parenting Students

The Oregon Revised Statutes on school attendance, admission, discipline and alternatives cite the following rules governing education for pregnant and parenting students:

1. *The State Board of Education shall establish by rule procedures for considering and obtaining special services for pregnant and parenting students. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to, the obligation of the school district to:*

   a. *Inform pregnant and parenting students and their parents of the availability of such services in the schools district, education service district or in the community;*

   b. *Facilitate the provision of such services, including counseling, life skills and parenting education, child care, transportation, career development and health and nutrition services to pregnant and parenting students;*

   c. *Inform pregnant and parenting students and their parents of the availability of resources provided by other agencies, including health and social services;*

   d. *Provide educational programs and schedules that address the individual learning styles and needs of pregnant and parenting students; and*

   e. *Develop individualized educational programs or services, or both, to address the needs of pregnant and parenting students when their educational needs cannot be met by the regularly provided school program.*

2. *Each school district shall adopt policies and guidelines for implementation of section (1) in a manner consistent with the rules of the state board.*

3. *No pregnant or parenting student shall be excluded from the public schools solely on the basis of pregnancy or parenthood.*

4. *For the purposes of reporting enrollments, school districts may count eligible students who are receiving individualized programs or services, or both, as described in (1)(e) above, in the same category with students eligible for special education as children with disabilities under ORS 343.035.**

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* The text of 336.640 has been revised slightly for ease of understanding within the context of this publication. The revisions do not affect the subsance of the statute in any way.

B. OAR 581-23-100 Eligibility Criteria for Student Weighting for Purposes of State School Fund Distribution

Oregon Administrative Rules allow school districts to claim additional weighting for pregnant and parenting students in programs eligible for weighting in the allocation of state school funds. The eligibility requirements under Sections 3 and 2 of this rule are as follows (ADM: Average Daily Membership):

(3) Pursuant to ORS 336.640(4), the resident school districts shall receive an additional 1.0 times the ADM for all pregnant and parenting students.

Eligible Students

(a) To be eligible, a student must be in the ADM of the resident school district and meet the following criteria:

(A) The student must be identified through systematic procedures established by the district,

(B) The student must be enrolled and receiving services described in ORS 336.640(1)(b) and (d),

(C) The student must have an individualized written plan for such services which identifies the specific services, their providers, and funding resources.

Ineligible Students

Students served under the following programs are not eligible for weighting:

a. Programs fully funded by state funds, programs funded fully by federal funds, and programs funded fully by a combination of state and federal funds;

b. Private and parochial schools, unless placed by a resident district in a registered private alternative school or state approved special education program;

c. Instruction by private tutor or parent under ORS 339.035;

d. Students included in the Special Education Child Count.

Reporting Forms

The Oregon Department of Education has generated a form for school districts to report on enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in school programs to claim additional weighting in the allocation of state funds. Form 581-3225-C is reprinted as *Appendix B* of this manual.

An Individualized Plan for Pregnant and/or Parenting Teens is also required on each student identified for additional weighting. A sample form created to meet the requirements under ORS 336.640 to claim additional weighting under OAR 581-23-100 is reprinted as *Appendix A*. The district may create its own form.

C. OAR 581-53-527 Minimum Standards for School Buses Designed to Transport Children with Disabilities

School district teen parent programs which involve having infants and toddlers on site must apply the same rules and standards on school buses as would be applied for transportation of children with disabilities.

Child Safety Seats/Systems:

a. *Child safety seats/systems used for transporting infants, toddlers, or others requiring added support shall conform to specific strength and performance standards of dynamic test standards identified in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 for protection of a child up to 50 pounds.*

b. *Child safety seats/systems shall bear a label specifying compliance with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards at the time of their manufacture.*

c. *Child safety seats/systems shall be secured to the school bus seat by either seat belts or special restraining devices as defined in section (13) of this rule.*

D. ORS 417.270 — Equal Access to Programs for Females Under Age Eighteen

The 1993 Legislative Assembly acknowledged that, when compared to males in the same age group, females under age 18 did not have the same access to human services and corrections programs funded by the state. The new legislation requires action by the state to correct the disparities by developing and implementing a plan for equal access to appropriate services and treatment. Section 1(4)(a) directs that *the nature, extent and effectiveness of services offered for females under 18 years of age within the areas of teen pregnancy* are to be monitored to assess the results of the newly enacted legislation.

E. Oregon Board of Education Policies

The State Board has declared education a key to preventing teenage pregnancy. The State Board recognizes that the tremendous educational needs of teenage parents can be met by local education agencies through collaborative, comprehensive, community-based programs and services. Recommendations involve measures to create opportunities for success for at-risk students by offering well-integrated student retention programs.

F. OR Laws 1989 Chapter 671 Establishing an Office of Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood

Legislation enacted in 1989 established a committee to provide public policy recommendations and develop a statewide program to reduce adolescent pregnancy and improve services to teen parents and their children. An Office of Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood was proposed to provide coordination and leadership. The creation of the office has been delayed by the impact of Measure 5, yet representatives of the key state agencies are working together to maintain the maximum coordination possible to meet the intent of the law. Development of the Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy Program (RAPP) network is one example. A statewide network of volunteers from 27 communities implementing low cost strategies for reduction of adolescent pregnancy have pledged a five-year commitment to work toward reduction.

G. Governor's Office on Teen Pregnancy

Early in 1994, Governor Barbara Roberts appointed a special assistant to administer an office on teen pregnancy. This individual served as a senior policy advisor to the Governor, to assist with her goal of reducing the teen pregnancy rate by one half. Recommendations were made to the Governor on ways to build on teen pregnancy programs that work and eliminate those that do not.

Currently, Governor John Kitzhaber and Mrs. Sharon Kitzhaber have identified the reduction of teen pregnancy as a priority. Oregon's first lady is devoting time to teen-pregnancy-prevention activities that include speaking, fund-raising, traveling and setting up a 501(c)3 corporation.

H. Oregon Educational Act for the 21st Century

The 1995 revision of Oregon's Educational Reform Act, known as House Bill 2991, supports the restructuring of the public school system begun in 1991 with House Bill 3565. Academic learning and achievement is the emphasis on HB 2991.

Section 17 of the law reads: "It is the policy of this state to implement, at the earliest possible time, programs for early childhood education, for parenting education including instruction about prenatal care, for child-parent centers and for extended Oregon prekindergarten programs. By 1999, funding shall be available for 50 percent of children eligible for Oregon prekindergarten programs and by 2004, full funding shall be available for eligible children.

Integration of social services is encouraged and a school district may provide services for children and families at the school site (Sec. 15). Collaborative, case-managed services should support and empower families in addressing the basic needs of their children: nutrition, health, safety, nurturing, shelter and stimulus to learn.

Preparation for the workplace is a major goal of successful teen parent programs. Career exploration, job training and job placement programs are available to pregnant and parenting youth through school districts, community colleges and human resource agencies. When linked to a complete educational program for parents, quality early childhood education for their children and health services for both, comprehensive and progressive services can produce significant results.

Oregon's Educational Act for the 21st Century is codified in Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 329. A copy of the Act is available by contacting the Oregon Department of Education, Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Field Services, (503) 378-8004.

I. Oregon Progress Board Benchmarks

To advance a Human Investment Partnership agenda for Oregonians as they enter the 21st century, the 1991 Oregon Legislature adopted a set of benchmarks to measure state progress in areas such as education, health, human rights and government efficiency. Education and social service agencies and policymakers consult the benchmarks during program development, using these collective goals to guide workplans and funding.

"Urgent benchmarks" are those related to Oregon's most pressing problems and needs. Reducing the incidence of teen pregnancy in the state by ten percent over the next two decades is an urgent benchmark which can be addressed by teen parent programs which encourage youth to delay subsequent pregnancies. Teen pregnancy prevention techniques can also address this benchmark.

Enhancing early childhood development is a benchmark which is measured by how many children enter kindergarten ready to learn. Increasing the number of drug-free babies, improving birth weight outcomes and reducing child abuse and neglect are examples of benchmarks for children which are also goals of teen parent programs. The benchmark on school completion is addressed by educational goals of programs for pregnant and/or parenting youth.

Urgent Benchmarks: Teen Pregnancy

Oregon Resident Females Ages 10–17	1980	1990	1992	1995	2000	2010
Pregnancy rate per 1,000	24.7	19.6	17.9*	9.8	8.0	8.0
African-Americans		48.7				8.0
American Indians		25.0				8.0
Asians		9.6				8.0
Hispanics		23.6				8.0
Whites		17.5				8.0

Reprinted from "Oregon Benchmarks: Standards for Measuring Statewide Progress and Government Performance," Report to the 1993 Legislature (State of Oregon, December 1992).

* Per 1992 Oregon Vital Statistics (*Appendix C* — Table)

IV. Related Statutes and Rules

A. ORS 339.010 through .035 Compulsory School Attendance

Requires all children and youth between ages 7 and 18 years to regularly attend public school, providing exemptions for private school students and home-schooled youth (OAR 581-21-029), youth 16–17 years of age who are employed full time and those enrolled in community colleges or alternative schools. Pregnant students are not exempted from compulsory attendance.

B. ORS 339.115 through .125 Admission of Students

Describes the requirements of districts to admit all persons between the ages of 5 and 19 residing within their district; includes students with no fixed place of residence or under the supervisor of a parent. Discusses transfers or admission of students from other districts.

C. ORS 339.133 through .137 Residency

Describes residency and placement considerations for students in and out of home.

D. ORS 343.035 through .195 Special Education Services

Defines terms and sets eligibility criteria for qualifying students. A proportionately high incidence of pregnant teens are eligible for Special Education Services.

E. OAR 581-15-081 Due Process Hearings on Placement

Provides rules on the right of a parent or a school district to request a hearing on placement, evaluation, or individualized education plan involving the provision of a free appropriate public education to a child who may have a disability. Extends to emancipated students.

F. OAR 581-21-045 through -049 Equal Educational Opportunities for Students

Defines discrimination prohibited, standards for program compliance, and a complaint and appeals procedure for alleged discrimination.

G. OAR 581-21-071 Alternative Education Programs

Provides information for parents and students on the availability of alternative education programs, and directions for school boards in establishing alternative programs which meet state requirements.

H. OAR 581-22-317 Credit for Alternative Education Programs

Defines parameters by which school districts shall grant credit to students enrolled in alternative programs.

I. ORS Chapter 109 Establishment of Paternity

Legal requirements, administered through the Department of Justice, in the establishment of paternity, identifying responsibilities toward child support.

J. ORS Chapter 416 Child Support Enforcement

Authorizes the Department of Human Resources to administer the Child Support Program, to ensure that all Oregon children receive such support. Identifies services and enforcement orders.

V. Programs in Oregon for Pregnant and Parenting Students

A. Qualities of Effective Programs

In Oregon, responsive programs for pregnant and parenting youth are community-based collaborations with at least three major service providers working in an interagency approach to provide:

- Supplements to traditional academic coursework as well as educational alternatives which include opportunities to promote the development of effective parenting skills;
- Quality, developmentally appropriate infant and toddler care with continuing access to counseling on how to choose and use quality child care;
- Careful assessment of the needs of the parents and their children;
- A range of responsive and respectful supportive services to address those needs through a case management approach that empowers the family unit to move toward self-sufficiency.

Whenever possible, programs incorporate a family literacy approach, in which parents and young children are educated together in order to improve motivation and learning for both parent and child. Other program components can include mentoring, peer support, and counseling in such areas as substance abuse and domestic violence. A range of outcomes can be expected from effective teen parent programs, including reductions in child abuse and neglect, the delay of subsequent pregnancies, enhanced family health and the improved likelihood of success for teen parents in school and in the workplace.

B. Partners in Collaboration

School District Teen Parent Programs

The double weighting of state basic education monies through the Oregon Department of Education was designed to financially assist local education agencies in the delivery of quality, comprehensive teen parent programs. These programs can reduce the dropout rate and, by facilitating the provision of comprehensive services, improve the health of mothers and infants. Child development and parenting skills become part of the student's coursework. In one model, day care is offered to student parents to keep them in school, and the infants and toddlers become part of the practical learning experience for students in child care and parenting classes.

Some school districts operate teen parent programs as part of a regular high school, either inside the building or nearby. Students spend part of the day in the program and the rest at the high school. Another component of teen parent programs can be outreach to parenting students who have dropped out of school, encouraging them to return and offering referrals for assistance from other agencies.

AFS JOBS Model: Young Parent Services

Oregon has taken a leading role in national efforts to reform the public assistance system as part of the Family Support Act of 1988 (manual section *II, d*). In 1989, Adult and Family Services (AFS)

developed a young parents model for the Job Opportunities and Basics Skills (JOBS) programs, currently being implemented by states as part of welfare reform.

The product of multi-agency collaboration, this model is a broad scale ideal for addressing the complex needs of this special population in all service areas. Services for the educational component of this model are provided by the school districts, where appropriate. Critical service needs are differentiated for communities where funds are insufficient to establish a full service teen parent program. Information on services in a community can be obtained from local AFS offices.

Job Training Partnership Administration

Job Training Partnership Administration (JTPA) programs are generally collaborative, using the available resource agencies in a community to provide the best program structure. This program focuses on the development of job skills through education and training. A Certificate of Eligibility is required similar to the process used by AFS.

Community College Programs

Life skills and job skills training are provided at several of Oregon's Community Colleges. Prenatal care classes (such as Lamaze technique training) are also available to teen parents at some locations. Child development centers located on several campuses are part of local school district programs.

Commission on Children and Families

The local Commissions can target funds and planning toward teen pregnancy prevention and services for at-risk children. Eligible families can receive assistance with financial planning and child care. Pregnant and parenting youth who are not receiving public assistance and who are enrolled in non-school district alternative education programs may receive assistance.

Health Division Resources

The county public health agency is the primary source of medical services in most communities for teen parents who are not living with a parent or guardian. Such services can include prenatal care and delivery, pregnancy prevention/contraception, well-baby clinics and immunizations.

School-based health clinics provide services to eighteen Oregon sites in nine counties. Most have budgets blended from Oregon Health Division, school district and county general funds. They are a resource for students in need of reproductive health services and pregnancy prevention information.

Boys and Girls Aid Society

Statewide, the Boys and Girls Aid Society served over 3,000 students in education programs for teen parents during 1993-1994. Federal grants have supported the development of a prevention curriculum for middle and high school students on the realities of teen parenthood. Services for pregnant teens include counseling on adoption and parenting, and school-based assistance in strengthening positive peer support among students.

VI. · Next Steps

A. Statewide Implementation of 1993 Legislation

Passage of House Bill 2004 creating the State Commission on Children and Families, and House Bill 2008 which authorizes new parenting programs, may result in additional services in local communities for teen parents. This will depend on the relative ranking of teen pregnancy and parenting issues in the local priority identification.

One facet of House Bill 2004 (now OR Laws 1993 Chapter 676) is a plan for how some services currently provided by the state Children's Services Division can be effectively delivered at the county level. House Bill 2008 (OR Laws 1993 Chapter 677) will help initiate a system of coordinated outreach and support, especially to first-born infants in high risk families, using the "Healthy Start" strategies as a guide. School districts can become involved in implementation of both of these pieces of legislation through the local Commission for Children and Families.

Implementation of the Oregon Health Plan will have both short and long term implications on the current use of Title XIX funds for case management, including such services for pregnant teens. A Task Force chaired by an administrator of the Office of Community Colleges Services is studying these issues on behalf of the Work Force Quality Council.

B. Local Program Planning

Those school districts interested in developing a Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy Program (RAPP) in their community should contact the Oregon Department of Human Resources. This effort is entirely compatible with other similar efforts such as the Oregon Together programs.

The local Commissions for Children and Families can also assist those interested in starting new programs, or enhancing services already provided. Dollars have been targeted to teen parent prevention, at-risk students and young children (through Great Start). A portion of the state's Child Care Block Grant funds has been reserved for teen parents who are not enrolled in school district programs. The implementation of Healthy Start is also part of the financial planning done by the Commission.

The Oregon Department of Education is a statewide resource for school districts in fulfilling obligations under federal and state education and civil rights laws as they affect pregnant and parenting students. Information on grants to school districts for teen parent programs is available through the Office of Student Services.

VII. Resources and References

A. Statewide Resources

Office of Student Services
Oregon Department of Education
Public Service Bldg., 2nd fl.
255 Capitol St. NE
Salem OR 97310-0203
378-5585

Oregon Commission on Children and Families
Salem
530 Center St. NE
Salem OR 97310
373-1283
Portland
800 NE Oregon, Suite 550-13
Portland OR 97232
731-4676

Oregon Health Division
Child and Adolescent Health Section
800 NE Oregon, Suite 825
Portland OR 97232
731-4000

Oregon Family Resource Coalition
PO Box 764
Salem OR 97308
588-2292

Oregon Child Care Resource and Referral Network
1900 Front St. NE
Salem OR 97303
375-2644

Job Training Partnership Administration
Oregon Office of Economic Development
Public Service Bldg., 3rd fl.
255 Capitol St. NE
Salem OR 97310
373-1995

JOBS Program: Young Parent Services
Adult & Family Services
Department of Human Resources
500 Summer St. NE
Salem OR 97310
945-5600

Office of Community College Services
Oregon State Board of Education
Public Services Bldg., 3rd fl.
255 Capitol St. NE
Salem OR 97310
378-8648

Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy Program
Oregon Department of Human Resources
500 Summer St. NE
Salem OR 97310
Contact: Ruth Russell (RAPP Program)
945-6083

Boys & Girls Aid Society of Oregon
018 SW Boundary Ct.
Portland OR 97201
222-9661

B. Publication References

Center for the Study of Social Policy: 1993. *Kids Count Data Book.* Washington, D.C.: The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Oregon 1991 Legislative Assembly. *Oregon Education Act for the 21st Century.* House Bill 3565. Salem, OR: State of Oregon.

Ross, Barbara; Barr, Robert: 1989. *Teenage Parent Programs: the Programs and Possibilities.* Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University, College of Education.

State of Oregon: December 1992. *Oregon Benchmarks: Standards for Measuring Statewide Progress and Government Performance.* A report to the 1993 Legislature. Salem, OR: Progress Board.

State of Oregon: January 1991. *Teen Pregnancy in Oregon: A Search for Answers.* Salem, OR: House Bill 3114 Committee on Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood.

State of Oregon: 1993. Legislative Fiscal Office Report: Adult & Family Services. Salem, OR: Department of Human Resources.

State of Oregon: 1992. Oregon Vital Statistics Report. Salem, OR: Oregon Department of Human Resources, Health Division.

State of Oregon: December 1989. *Young Parent Services.* Salem, OR: Department of Human Resources, Adult and Family Services Division.

U.S. Department of Education: 1988. *Dropout Rates in the United States.* Washington D.C.: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

U.S. Department of Education: July 1991. *Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Issues Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.* Washington D.C.: Office of Civil Rights.

VIII. Appendices

A. Individualized Plan for Pregnant and Parenting Teens (sample form) under OAR 581-23-100 (Sections 3 and 4)

B. Form 581-3225 — Report of Students Eligible for Additional Weighting

C. Tables:

1992 Incidence of Teen Pregnancy in Oregon Counties
1992 Live Births to Teens in Oregon Counties

D. "Does Your School Make the Grade?" — Title IX Compliance Checklist

Appendix A

SAMPLE FORM ONLY

INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN FOR PREGNANT AND/OR PARENTING TEENS

School District _____ School _____

Date _____

Student Information

Student Name _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Pregnant? _____ Yes _____ No Due Date _____

Parenting? _____ Yes _____ No No. of Children _____ Ages _____

Living Situation _____

Sources of Financial Support _____

Education Status: Grade Standing: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
On Track for Graduation? _____ Yes _____ No No. of Credits Behind _____

Date of Enrollment in Individualized Plan _____

Program Information: Check whether service is to be provided and paid for by family, school, or agency. If agency, please indicate source. Briefly describe service to be provided.

EDUCATION Description

Provided by	Paid for by
☐ Family	☐ Family
☐ School	☐ School
☐ Agency	☐ Agency

TRANSPORTATION Description

Provided by	Paid for by
☐ Family	☐ Family
☐ School	☐ School
☐ Agency	☐ Agency

CHILD CARE Description

Provided by	Paid for by
☐ Family	☐ Family
☐ School	☐ School
☐ Agency	☐ Agency

LIFE SKILLS TRAINING Description

Provided by	Paid for by
☐ Family	☐ Family
☐ School	☐ School
☐ Agency	☐ Agency

PARENTING EDUCATION

Provided by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Paid for by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Description

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Provided by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Paid for by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Description

HEALTH & NUTRITION SERVICES

Provided by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Paid for by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Description

COUNSELING

Provided by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Paid for by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Description

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Provided by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Paid for by
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Agency

Description

I have been informed of the services available for pregnant and parenting students in the district, and I have received information about the availability of resources provided by other agencies, including health and social services.

_____ _____
Signature of Student Date

_____ _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

_____ _____
Signature of School Representative Date

Termination Data

Date of Termination from programReason (check one)

_____

Comments _____

_____

_____

- ☐ Non-attendance
- ☐ Moved
- ☐ Completed HS degree
- ☐ Completed GED
- ☐ Returned to regular school program
- ☐ Other _____

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
255 Capitol St SE
Salem, OR 97310-0203

Office of Educational Support
School Finance & Data Information Services

Appendix B

State School Fund Report of Pregnant and Parenting Students
Eligible for Additional Weighting

Year Ending June 30, 1994 - Due Date July 11

School District Name and Number: .....

☐ No Pregnant and Parenting students in programs eligible for additional weighting.
(If this item is checked, stop here and remit form to ODE)

Pursuant to ORS 336.640 (4), the resident school districts shall receive an additional 1.0 times the ADM of all eligible pregnant and parenting students.

Part I:
(Please complete Part I and sign on back even if your student list is sent electronically)

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
To be eligible, a student must be in the ADM of the resident school district and enrolled in a program meeting the following criteria: (please check all items that apply)

☐ (A) All students listed below are identified through systematic procedures established by the district
☐ (B) All students listed below are enrolled and receiving services described in ORS 336.640 (1)(b) &(d)
☐ (C) All students listed below have an individualized written plan for such services which identifies the specific services, their providers, and funding resources.

INELIGIBLE STUDENTS
Students served in the following programs are not eligible for additional weighting:

(a) Programs funded fully by state funds, programs funded fully by federal funds, and programs funded fully by a combination of state and federal funds;
(b) Private and parochial schools unless placed by the resident district in a registered private alternative program or state approved special education program;
(c) Instruction by a private tutor or parent under ORS 339.035
(d) Students included in the Special Education Child Count.

COMPLETE CHECKLIST AND PART II (BACK OF FORM)

Part II -- Required for year ending June 30, 1994 report

(Use **separate** sheet for each school or Pregnant & Parenting program)

Report all eligible resident students served or placed by your district. See OAR 581-23-100 for details.
Please copy this page if additional sheets are needed.
A computer printout containing like data may be substituted for this form.

School/Program .....
Number of days in Session for Year ending June 30,1994 .....

Name of Pregnant and Parenting student	Date of birth of **Student**	Enrollment in eligible Entry	dates programs Withdrawal	Total Days Membership (TDM) for Year ending June 30, 1994 in eligible program	Grade Level

I CERTIFY that this report is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature for Resident District .....

Appendix C

Incidence of Pregnancies and Live Births to Teens in Oregon Counties, 1993

County	Female Population			Pregnancies			Live Births		
Age	10-17	18-19	10-19	10-17	18-19	10-19	10-17	18-19	10-19
Baker	922	189	1111	14	19	33	12	13	25
Benton	3574	2180	5754	36	70	106	16	29	45
Clackamas	17910	3891	21801	229	353	582	129	223	352
Clatsop	1920	455	2375	34	43	77	12	30	42
Columbia	2527	558	3085	44	69	113	27	46	73
Coos	3539	801	4340	75	105	180	55	84	139
Crook	875	211	1086	9	36	45	9	29	38
Curry	968	200	1168	14	20	34	10	17	27
Deschutes	4900	936	5836	83	129	212	47	88	135
Douglas	5777	1299	7076	116	172	288	78	146	224
Gilliam	117	17	134	0	1	1	0	1	1
Grant	485	117	602	10	13	23	8	12	20
Harney	444	109	553	8	13	21	7	9	16
Hood River	1105	224	1329	17	23	40	12	17	29
Jackson	8651	1891	10542	163	195	358	121	161	282
Jefferson	863	185	1048	32	38	70	25	30	55
Josephine	3596	812	4408	59	104	163	46	92	138
Klamath	3442	795	4237	71	123	194	49	96	145
Lake	453	102	555	7	12	19	7	11	18
Lane	15951	5049	21000	230	388	618	147	261	408
Lincoln	2159	438	2597	37	68	105	21	46	67
Linn	5529	1284	6813	87	147	234	52	115	167
Malheur	1825	388	2213	40	82	122	39	78	117
Marion	14031	2948	16979	317	456	773	237	338	575
Morrow	562	120	682	13	15	28	11	14	25
Multnomah	28392	6808	35200	775	1143	1918	465	666	1131
Polk	3151	617	3768	49	73	122	39	62	101
Sherman	97	29	126	2	0	2	1	0	1
Tillamook	1275	255	1530	17	37	54	10	27	37
Umatilla	3784	850	4634	58	145	203	43	113	156
Union	1504	358	1862	21	38	59	11	30	41
Wallowa	455	98	553	3	9	12	2	7	9
Wasco	1360	308	1668	22	30	52	11	23	34
Washington	19495	3982	23477	271	464	735	127	263	390
Wheeler	89	13	102	3	1	4	2	1	3
Yamhill	4471	926	5397	61	100	161	38	70	108
TOTAL	166198	39443	205641	3027	4734	7761	1926	3248	5174

Source: Oregon Vital Statistics Report, 1993

1993 Pregnancy and Live Birth Rates: Oregon Teens Under Age 18

Rate per thousand (population)

Pregnancy Rates

Rank	County	Rate
1	Jefferson	37.1
2	Wheeler	33.7
3	Multnomah	27.3
4	Morrow	23.1
5	Marion	22.6
6	Malheur	21.9
7	Coos	21.2
8	Klamath	20.6
9	Grant	20.6
10	Sherman	20.6
11	Douglas	20.1
12	Jackson	18.8
13	Harney	18.0
14	Clatosp	17.7
15	Columbia	17.4
16	Lincoln	17.1
17	Deschutes	16.9
18	Josephine	16.4
19	Wasco	16.2
20	Linn	15.7
21	Polk	15.6
22	Lake	15.5
23	Hood River	15.4
24	Umatilla	15.3
25	Baker	15.2
26	Curry	14.5
27	Lane	14.4
28	Union	14.0
29	Washington	13.9
30	Yamhill	13.6
31	Tillamook	13.3
32	Clackamas	12.8
33	Crook	10.3
34	Benton	10.1
35	Wallowa	6.6
36	Gilliam	0.0
	Average	**17.3**

Live Birth Rates

Rank	County	Rate
1	Jefferson	29.0
2	Wheeler	22.5
3	Malheur	21.4
4	Morrow	19.6
5	Marion	16.9
6	Grant	16.5
7	Multnomah	16.4
8	Harney	15.8
9	Coos	15.5
10	Lake	15.5
11	Klamath	14.2
12	Jackson	14.0
13	Douglas	13.5
14	Baker	13.0
15	Josephine	12.8
16	Polk	12.4
17	Umatilla	11.4
18	Hood River	10.9
19	Columbia	10.7
20	Curry	10.3
21	Sherman	10.3
22	Crook	10.3
23	Lincoln	9.7
24	Deschutes	9.6
25	Linn	9.4
26	Lane	9.2
27	Yamhill	8.5
28	Wasco	8.1
29	Tillamook	7.8
30	Union	7.3
31	Clackamas	7.2
32	Washington	6.5
33	Clatsop	6.3
34	Benton	4.5
35	Wallowa	4.4
36	Gilliam	0.0
	Average	**12.0**

Rank Order: Descending
1st Key: Rate
2nd Key: Population
Data Source: 1993 Oregon Vital Statistics
Population: Oregon resident females under age 18
Pregnancies include reported abortions obtained out of state.

Appendix D

Does Your School Make the Grade?

Title IX, Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting

Is your school doing everything it needs to treat pregnant and parenting students fairly? Is it complying with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the federal law that protects these students from discrimination?

Does your school or school district, principal or staff . . .

_____ Expel or suspend a student for being a parent?

_____ Push pregnant students into a special class, program or school?

_____ Track pregnant and parenting students into specific courses of study?

_____ Require or coerce pregnant students to have home teaching or a tutor — or make it hard for these students to get these services if needed?

_____ Arbitrarily tell pregnant students they can't take laboratory courses or enroll in work-study programs?

_____ Exclude boys from parenting classes?

_____ Arbitrarily require pregnant students to take physical education or require them to take study halls instead of physical education?

_____ Deny pregnant or parenting students honors, such as valedictorian, special awards, certain scholarships, honor rolls or participation in graduation?

_____ Bar pregnant or parenting students from being members or officers of clubs or organizations, such as the student council or the National Honor Society?

_____ Refuse to let pregnant or parenting students run for or be elected to class office, the homecoming court, or class favorites (such as "Most Likely to Succeed")?

_____ Restrict the participation of pregnant or parenting students in sports programs, teams, or other extracurricular activities, even though there is no medical reason?

_____ Deny a student honors, awards, team or club membership, etc., because she was once pregnant?

_____ Penalize a student or deny her honors because she has had an abortion?

_____ Give a student a poor recommendation (or refuse to give a recommendation) for a scholarship, job, or continued schooling because of pregnancy or parenthood?

_____ Counsel any girl who is pregnant or a mother — or any boy who is a father — not to go to college to get further training?

_____ Put restrictions on teenage mothers that aren't also put on teenage fathers?

_____ Require pregnant students — but not other students with medical conditions — to get a doctor's certificate to stay in school?

_____ Require a young mother to return to school after a certain number of weeks, rather than allowing the time her doctor says she needs?

_____ Refuse to reinstate a new mother to the status she had when her leave began?

_____ Deny pregnant students excused absences for medical problems related to pregnancy — such as fatigue, nausea, or morning sickness?

_____ Make fewer adjustments for pregnant students than for students with other medical conditions? (Examples: a hall pass for pregnant students troubled by frequent urination or an elevator pass for pregnant students with impaired mobility.)

_____ Deny an excused absence for prenatal care (before the baby is born) or for medical care after the baby is born?

Every item checked above is a violation of Title IX. Because pregnancy discrimination affects only females, it always violates Title IX. All schools which receive federal assistance of any kind — and that includes nearly every public school in the country — must maintain compliance with Title IX.

Source: *Journal of Home Economics* (Winter 1988)